

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 20, replace the paragraph beginning on line 12 with the following amended paragraph:

Catalyst E comprising oxides of Ti and Mo was prepared in substantially the same way as that in Reference Example 1 except for the use of titanium tetrachloride in place of stannic chloride pentahydrate. The composition of catalyst [[F]]E consisted of 44 mass% of TiO_2 , 17 mass% of MoO_3 , and 39 mass% of SiO_2 . Catalyst [[F]]E had an Mo/ (Ti + Mo) atomic ratio of 0.18, was in the form of a smooth sphere suitable for a fluid bed catalyst, and had sufficient mechanical strength.

Page 20, replace the paragraph beginning on line 23 through page 21, line 2 with the following amended paragraph:

Catalyst F having a different composition was prepared in substantially the same way as that in Reference Example 1. The composition of catalyst F consisted of 46 mass% of SnO_2 , 16 mass% of MoO_3 , and 38 mass% of SiO_2 . Catalyst [[B]] F had an Mo/ (Sn + Mo) atomic ratio of 0.29, was in the form of a smooth sphere suitable for a fluid bed catalyst, and had sufficient mechanical strength.